Linking of Kankurgachi chord line with circular Railway line

3014. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would consider linking Kankurgachi Chord line under Sealdah Division of Eastern Railway with circular railway passenger line as Majerhat; and

(b) if so, the time frame set for the same thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) Kankurgachi Chord joins Ballygange and Kankurgachi stations which are located on Sealdah-Majerhat-Budge-Budge and Sealdah-Dum Dum-Ranaghat Sections respectively. Thus Majerhat, Ballygange, Kankurgachi and Dum Dum are already connected. Further Majerhat and Dum Dum are now connected by Circular Railway. Thus, Kankurgachi Chord is fully connected with Circular Railway system at either end.

(b) Does not arise.

Connecting villages with metropolis and suburbs through Rail-Tel

†3015. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme to connect villages to metropolis and suburbs through Rail-Tel, an Undertaking of the Railways; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and what is its scope?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) No, Sir. However Planning Commission is exploring the possibility for connecting villages through the networks of consortium of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) of which Rail-Tel is also a part.

(b) Does not arise at present.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.